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## Monitor Newsletter July 28, 2003

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## HOLLYWOOD-HONED ANIMATION USED TO RE-CREATE FORT MEIGS, CIRCA 1813

When you already have a "Mission: Impossible" to your credit, a computer reconstruction of a historical site might seem simple by comparison.

But Larry Bowman, a BGSU graduate student and former Hollywood special-effects artist, figures it took three months of work—five hours a day, seven days a week—to complete his computer model of Perrysburg's Fort Meigs as it looked in 1813.

Adding time for research and other preparation, Bowman says he's been "eating and sleeping" the project since last September.

The resulting re-creation has "all kinds of potential" as an educational tool, says Dr. Larry Nelson, site manager at Fort Meigs, which was built 190 years ago to defend the Ohio Country against British invasion in the War of 1812.

Nelson envisions Bowman's work on a computer in a kiosk in one of the fort's blockhouses or in its museum. All or part of the reconstruction could also go on the fort's Web site, and it could be broken down to correlate with Ohio history curriculum standards, with teachers then directed to the site. Possible uses are "almost limitless," Nelson says.

For his part, Bowman suggests the computer model could be put on compact discs and sold to schools, museums and bookstores. But profit wasn't his prime motive for doing the re-creation. It's a project for his master's degree program in career and technology education at BGSU's College of Technology.

The Sandusky native earned a bachelor's degree in technology from the University in 1980 and returned in 2001 after a 20-year career in Hollywood. During that time, he helped bring the Energizer bunny to life, and his film credits included "Batman Returns" and the first "Mission: Impossible" movie, which used spy gear and headsets that Bowman built. He also worked on "Babylon 5," one of the first television shows to use computer animation.

Life was good, Bowman says, but a few years ago, he decided Los Angeles wasn't where he wanted to raise his son and that he wanted to share his experience "with the new breed of visual communicators" as a teacher. So he came back to northwest Ohio.

When the time came to settle on his major master's project, Bowman chose to wed his previous vocation—high-tech computer animation—with his avocation—history. He already had a library of historical figures and history-based fantasy figures built during his robotic prop-making days.

Although he considered a project about mound-building cultures in southern Ohio, Dr. Edmund Danziger Jr., Distinguished Teaching Professor of History at BGSU, suggested Fort Meigs, citing the proximity of both the site and fort experts, and its local significance.

"Any historical site would have fascinated me, so it didn't matter," says Bowman, who started by taking digital photos at the fort and building models of its picket wall and blockhouses—the two-story structures from which the Americans fired guns and cannons at their British attackers during two sieges in the spring and summer of 1813.

He sent pictures of the models in an email message to Nelson, who describes Bowman as "driven by passion" for history. From their first meeting, "we were on the same page," adds Nelson, who earned a doctorate in history from BGSU in 1994.

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A main source of information for the reconstruction was an Army Corps of Engineers map from 1888, 73 years after the fort was abandoned. Bowman also worked from two unpublished documents: a 1966 architectural study which preceded the fort's restoration and opening as a state memorial in 1972, and a report written in 2000 by Nelson, who used maps, diaries and other documents to create a verbal history.

"There are remarkably few drawings of the (original) structure," says Bowman. He did have a map that showed the location, though not the alignment, of the 300 or so tents that housed the roughly 2,000 men who lived inside the fort. To estimate the alignment, he applied an 1812 military doctrine with regulations for tent set-up.

Because he already had a digital camera, computers and necessary software, there was little cost beyond travel—and that was also minimal for the Maumee resident. He's creating a three-dimensional walkthrough of the site now, and is hoping for funding to add other features, such as supply facilities just outside the fort's walls and British artillery across the Maumee River, as well as people.

Animating people would be a project equal to creating the fort, notes Bowman. "Whatever you do, the first thing you need is a fort," he says.

## WOMEN MAY SKIP MAMMOGRAMS DESPITE FAMILY HISTORY OF BREAST CANCER: RAHMAN

Nearly everyone has known someone who has had breast cancer, and many have close family members who have contracted the disease—the second-leading cause of death among American women.

A study by Saleh Rahman, public and allied health, shows that, contrary to what one might assume, having this family background may actually deter women from getting regular mammograms, a prime tool for early diagnosis.

Rahman, whose research interests focus on prevention and control of breast cancer, conducted a study of nearly 30,000 women to determine what factors influenced their behavior in following recommendations about regular mammography. He presented his findings earlier this year at the American College of Preventive Medicine 2003 meeting in San Diego.

The women, ages 40-90, were entered into the database of the Colorado Mammography Project. The survey looked at such factors as economic status, education, race, insurance and family history, for the period from 1994-98.

Fear could be a reason for avoidance of mammograms by women with positive family histories, Rahman said, even when all other variables such as insurance, education and financial security are taken into account. "I was surprised. I thought a family history of breast cancer would be a positive influence in whether they got mammograms, since it was considered a 'cue to action' in many behavioral studies. But fear can be a very significant factor," he acknowledged.

Though educated white women with higher incomes and insurance coverage were the most likely to have regular mammograms, women in their 40s with a family history of breast cancer were less likely to do so. "There's a denial there," said Rahman, who will conduct a local study with Wood County Hospital beginning in the fall.

"Since we can't yet prevent cancer, we have to look at morbidity reduction through early diagnosis and secondary prevention, which includes clinical breast exam and mammograms. I feel that if we can understand the factors that influence a woman's adherence to the recommendations, we may be able to have a positive effect on their decisions.

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"Human behavior is a very complex phenomenon," he added. "We have to examine all the psychological, cultural, economic and other factors that come into play."

Rahman proposes using community theater as a grassroots method of reaching women in their own environments. This approach has been used successfully in Australia, South Africa, Bangladesh and India in AIDS prevention and diabetes education, he noted. In this scenario, public health officials provide the information and "cues" to the local performers, who then improvise situations they personally may have experienced. This triggers an emotional response both in the performers and their peer audience. "Credibility and trustworthiness are good predictors of whether a message will be accepted," according to Rahman. "My dream is to develop a large-scale behavioral intervention in northwest Ohio."

Also an adjunct assistant professor of medicine at the Medical College of Ohio, Rahman received his medical degree from Dhaka University in Bangladesh. He holds a master's of public health degree from Harvard University's School of Public Health and a doctorate of public health from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Rahman is in the process of studying another set of data with 10,000 women from the Colorado project who were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2000. "I will examine whether adherence to mammography guidelines has an impact on the survival and reduction of mortality," he said.

How often, and at what ages, women should have mammograms has sometimes been a subject of disagreement among the 11 major U.S. organizations that deal with breast cancer research and prevention. Recently, however, they jointly settled on a recommendation that all women over 40 should have the procedure done annually.

## BGSU TO HOST TOP COMMUNICATION RESEARCHERS

Nine distinguished faculty members and 38 doctoral students from across the nation will come to BGSU for the National Communication Association's annual Doctoral Honors Seminar Aug. 3-6.

The School of Communication Studies is hosting the event, which will feature three public sessions at which top papers will be presented Aug. 4 and 5. Chaired by the visiting faculty, all three sessions will be held in 308 Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Because it's a national seminar, and the selection process is competitive, being chosen as host is "quite an honor," said J. Michael Sproule, director of the School of Communication Studies.

The first public session, set for 1-2:15 p.m. Aug. 4, will address "Trends and Directions in Culture and Communication." Doctoral students presenting papers on the topic will be:

- Elaine Hsieh, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, "Interpreters in Medical Encounters: In Search of a Model of Bilingual Health Communication."
- Michelle Scollo Sawyer, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, "Telereference: Television as a Resource for Social Interaction and the Creation of Community."
- Saskia Witteborn, University of Washington, "Of being an Arab Woman: Before and After September 11<sup>th</sup>: The Construction and Reconstruction of Cultural Identity."

Chairing the first session will be Michael Hecht of Pennsylvania State University. Among the co-authors of Hecht's book, *African American Communication: Exploring Identity and Culture*, is BGSU President Sidney Ribeau. Session co-chairs are Brenda Allen of the University of Colorado-Denver and Jake Harwood of the University of Arizona.

The second public session, from 9-10:15 a.m. Aug. 5, will focus on "Media and Democracy" and feature three Penn State students. Showcasing their research will be:

- Srividya Ramasubramanian, "Media Literacy and Exemplar Stereotypicality Effects on Implicit and Explicit Attitudes."

# 2 BGSU GRADUATE STRATEGIC UNIVERSITY INITIATIVE

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- Jennifer Proffitt, "Wedding Bells or Death Knell? A Political Economic Analysis of the Viacom/CBS Merger."
- George Lugalambi, "The Framing of Mediated Public Deliberation on Political Succession in Uganda."

Barbara Wilson, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and an expert on children's affective responses to the mass media, will chair the second session. Leo Jeffres of Cleveland State University and Stephen Reese of the University of Texas will serve as co-chairs.

"Rhetoric and Performance as Epistemic" will be the subject of the final public session, from 1-2:15 p.m. Aug. 5. Student presenters will be:

- Kristan Poirot, University of Georgia, "Searching for (Sojourner) Truth(s): Experience, Ethics, and Contingency in Rhetorical Studies."
- Marcus Paroske, University of Pittsburgh, "Knowledge Claims in a Rhetorical Context: Thabo Mbeki's Letter to World Leaders."
- John Lynch, University of Georgia, "Institutional Rhetoric, Persona, and Tacit Support: The Fourth Persona in the Catholic Church's Pastoral Letter on Homosexuality."

Thomas Nakayama of Arizona State University will chair the session, with Bryant Keith Alexander of California State University-Los Angeles and James Darsey of Georgia State University acting as co-chairs.

In addition to the School of Communication Studies and the National Communication Association, seminar underwriters include the Florence and Jesse Currier Endowment and BGSU's Graduate College and College of Arts and Sciences.

## IN BRIEF

### Nominations sought for two faculty awards

The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research is seeking nominations for the Olscamp Research Award and the Outstanding Young Scholar Award.

The Olscamp Research Award is presented annually to a faculty member for outstanding scholarly or creative accomplishments during the previous three years. For purposes of the award, accomplishments may include refereed presentations of scholarly papers or publications; externally funded grants and contracts; musical compositions/arrangements or concerts/recitals; dramatic or visual art works presented at national or international meetings or exhibitions, and patentable or licensable discoveries or creations of major significance.

Members of the BGSU community and alumni, as well as persons external to the University, may submit nominations. They are due in the SPAR office, 106 University Hall, by Sept. 25.

That is also the deadline for nominations for the Outstanding Young Scholar Award, which helps enhance the academic career of junior faculty by providing discretionary funds for the support of future scholarly activities. The honor brings a \$1,000 credit to the recipient's discretionary research account in the SPAR office, in addition to a \$1,000 cash award. Nominees must have received their Ph.D. or equivalent degree no earlier than July 1, 1992, and must have been employed by BGSU for at least three years. They must also have been actively pursuing external funding while at the University. For more information about the awards, call SPAR at 2-2481.

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**IN BRIEF**

**Firelands summer enrollment up**

The number of students at BGSU Firelands has increased by 8.1 percent over last summer, to 561, and those students are taking 18.8 percent more credit hours than Firelands students did a year ago.

Credit hours are the combined for-credit hours taken by all summer students, and are assessed on the 15th day of the enrollment period.

Expressing his pleasure at the continued "growth trend," Firelands Dean James Smith added that the Cedar Point Center, opening in the fall, "will provide a new, state-of-the-art resource to facilitate more bachelor's degree coursework" at the Huron campus.

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**Retired placement director receives Alumni Community Award**

The BGSU Alumni Association recently honored a 1950 graduate and retired University placement director with a long history of giving back to his community.

James L. Galloway, now of Palm Harbor, Fla., received the Alumni Community Award, which recognizes outstanding voluntary service beyond normal business or professional obligations.

Galloway was a BGSU administrator for 28 years, beginning in 1955. After one year as assistant admissions director, he was director of placement until 1972—the same year he was named National Placement Director of the Year by the Association of School and University Services. He then served as director of career services and placement until his retirement in 1983.

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**Date of post office move not set**

While construction is under way at the Park Avenue Warehouse to accommodate the relocation of the postal operations center from University Hall, the date of the move has not been determined, according to Troy Lacey, manager of postal and printing services.

Monitor reported incorrectly last week that the move was scheduled for completion by the end of this month.

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# BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

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## CALENDAR

### Wednesday, July 30

**Picnic in the Pub.** 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Black Swamp Pub, Union.

**Women's Book Club: *The Good Sister***, noon, Dimling Lounge (third floor), Union. Call the Information Center at 2-2741 to register.

### Thursday, July 31

**Master's candidate recital**, Brent Wheeler, guitar, 6 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Free and open to the public.

### Friday, Aug. 1

**Deadline to submit nominations for Diamante Awards**, which recognize individuals and organizations for outstanding achievements and service in the northwest Ohio Latino community. For more information and nomination forms, contact Bettina Shuford at 2-2642 or bshufor@bgnet.bgsu.edu, or Marcos Rivera at 2-0495 or mrivera@bgnet.bgsu.edu.

**Master's candidate recital**, Emily Wheeler, guitar, 5 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Free and open to the public.

### Continuing Events

#### July 28-31

**W. Heinlen Hall Lecture Series**, 3:30-4:30 p.m. daily, 123 Overman Hall, with Daniel G. Nocera, W.M. Keck Professor of Energy and professor of chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Nocera will discuss "Energy Conversion at the Molecular Level" today (July 28), "Proton-Coupled Electron Transfer: A Unifying Mechanism in Bioenergy Conversion and Catalysis" on Tuesday, "Sensing on Nano- and Mega-Length Scales" on Wednesday and "Magnetism in 2D Kagome Lattices" on Thursday.

#### July 29-Aug. 2

**Musical Theatre, "The Pirates of Penzance,"** 8 p.m. nightly, Huron Playhouse, McCormick School, Huron. Tickets are \$11 for adults, \$10 for students and seniors, and \$7 for children under 12. For reservations, call the box office at 419-433-4744 from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

#### Aug. 1-2

**BGSU Opera Theater, "The Old Maid and the Thief"** by Menotti and "La Serva Padrona," by Pergolesi, two one-act comic operas, 8 p.m., Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. For more information, contact the box office at 2-8171 or 800-589-2224.

#### Through Aug. 1

**Art Exhibit, Paintings by Vincent Hron**, Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

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**JOB POSTINGS**

**FACULTY**

**Library.** Associate/full professor. Call **Beverly Stearns**, 2-2856. Deadline: Oct. 15.

Contact the Office of Human Resources at 419-372-8421 for information regarding classified and administrative positions. Position vacancy announcements may be viewed at [www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr](http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr).

Employees wishing to apply for these positions must sign a "Request for Transfer" form and attach an updated resume or data sheet. This information must be turned in to Human Resources by the job deadline.

**CLASSIFIED**

**Clerical Specialist (C-23-Rd)**—Biological Sciences. Full time, nine months (January-September). Pay grade 5. Deadline: 1 p.m. Aug. 4.

The following position is posted on and off campus:

**Secretary 2 (C-18-Vd)**—College of Technology, Epsilon Pi Tau. Part time, 30 hours per week. Pay grade 7. Deadline: 1 p.m. Friday (Aug. 1).

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

**Assistant Director of Cooperative Education and Internship Program (M-052)**—Career Center. Administrative grade 15. Deadline: Aug. 5.

**Associate Director of Cooperative Education and Internship Program (M-051)**—Career Center. Administrative grade 16. Deadline: Aug. 5.

**Technology Support Specialist (R-054)**—Instructional Media Services. Administrative grade 13. Deadline: Aug. 11.

**Associate Director of Admissions (R-048)**—Admissions Office. Administrative grade 16. Deadline: Aug. 11.

**Director of Gift Planning (V-046)**—Development Office/University Advancement. Administrative grade 18. Review of applications will begin Aug. 15. All applicants will receive full and fair consideration until the position is filled.

**Women's Diving Coach (R-028)**—Intercollegiate Athletics (Search extended). Salary is commensurate with education and experience. Part-time, eight-month position beginning Sept. 1. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

**OBITUARY**

Joan Blome, 75, died July 21 in Florida. She worked at the University from 1973-84, serving as administrative secretary to the president and later as special events coordinator.